

provision has been made to provide training to the women who are weak and are suffering from anaemia. They are persuaded to adopt family planning norms specially through education and other media.

[English]

SHRI R. P. DAS : Under the present socio-economic condition I do not think that the one child formula would work. But still I have some doubt about the two child formula also (*Interruption*). I would like to know from the Minister whether this two child formula has been able to create any impact in the rural areas or not. If so, to what extent has it worked in the rural areas ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : In the rural areas and in the backward areas particularly the response to family planning can be created through mass media campaigns and through education of the masses. That is being done by the Government.

SHRI R. P. DAS : That is not the answer, Sir.

**Proposal For Uniform Curriculum by
NCERT**

*488. **SHRI SURESH KURUP† :**

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to states :

(a) whether there is any proposal by National Council of Educational Research and Training for a uniform national curriculum;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by Government to introduce the uniform curriculum ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c) The New Education Policy is presently under formulation. After it is finalised, the Government will decide, *inter-alia*, on various questions pertaining to curriculum etc.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister in his first broadcast to the nation on the 6th January 1985 announced a new education policy and till now no concrete step has been taken by the Government for the new education policy. In this connection, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what concrete proposals are under the consideration of the Government. I would also like to know from him whether the Government would take into consideration the unemployment problem in this country as also the available job opportunity. He may also please tell us whether the Government will formulate its new education policy on a scientific manner linked with job potentiality.

SHRI K. C. PANT : It is true that the Prime Minister in his first national broadcast spoke of the need to frame a new education policy. Moreover, in reply to the Budget Demands for Grants of the Education Ministry, I had mentioned the steps which we were taking to frame such a policy. First, we are engaged now in a review of the education policy and we have a study paper which will be discussed and we will diagnose the ailments, etc of the present education system. We have another paper also for discussion and finally after a lot of discussion and national debate, we intend to frame the recommendations. I had mentioned all this I need not repeat that. Now, for the other question, I would like to make it clear that education does not create employment. Employment would be the result of the rate of economic growth. But I agree with my hon. friend that as far as possible there should be a matching between the type of education, the kind of persons produced by the system and requirements of the productive employment as a whole, not only the job but the self-employment and also the kind of people required by educational institutions, by research and so on. Taking the totality into account, one should try to match the two sub systems of the total system namely the productive employment sector and the education sector.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will announce the new

education policy within a certain time-limit so that the people of the country will be able to know the new system. He may also tell us whether the Government intends to constitute an Expert Committee for the formulation of new education policy and whether the Government intends to consult both the representatives of students and the Teachers before formulating the new education policy.

SHRI K. C. PANT: The aim of Government is to implement the new policy in the next academic year and accordingly we have set a time limit for the formulation of the policy. So far as the consultation is concerned, we will certainly consult the teachers and the students also.

[Translations.]

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know how many Central Schools are there in Gujarat and whether the hon. Minister would consider the proposal of opening a Central School at Kandla in Kutch, keeping in view the importance of Kandla as a major port.

MR SPEAKER: Ushaji, you please sit down Let Prof Madhu Dandwate ask the question first, as his name is listed in the question.

(English)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, we cannot be on four legs at the same time.

SHRI K. C. PANT : He has lost his chivalry.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I am waiting for her. Anyway, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that after 37 years of freedom, the education policy is still under formulation. I am glad that it is under formulation. But against the background, I would like to ask him whether it is not a fact that the new Prime Minister has already announced that he wants the education linked up with productivity and is it not a fact that this is consistent with the Kothari Commission's recommendations that the Degree and Employment should be delinked ?

It is not a fact that 30 years back in 1956, the Public Service Committee also made a similar recommendation ? Is it also not a fact that the National Committee that was appointed for the ten plus two plus three system, again made a similar recommendation ? On that basis, is it not a fact that the Chairman of the Public Service Commission, Mr. Kidwai (if I remember aright) had written to Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister, making again the same recommendation? And is it also not a fact that in 1979 the Janata Government accepted this recommendation and made it the policy base for its educational policy draft ? Finally, is it not a fact that under the chairmanship of Shri Parthasarathy you have appointed an Expert Committee, which has also made the same recommendation ?

Having identical recommendations from all Commissions and even from your own predecessors, why do you need so much time to formulate the policy and announce it after some time ?

SHRI K. C. PANT: If it were not Prof. Madhu Dandavate, I would have said the question does not arise.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: You cannot be partial like that. We are all equals.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I am partial to Prof. Dandavate.

MR SPEAKER: There are first among the equals too.

SHRI K. C. PANT: The Education Commission in 1964-66, called 'Kothari Commission' did make certain recommendations in this respect, and the Government adopted the Education Policy and announced it in 1968. It is not as if there is no Education Policy. It is only being reviewed. I think the Professor would concede that there is need for reviewing the education policy, keeping in mind the developments that have taken place in the intervening period. 1968 was a long time back. Now, on the basic question of delinking of jobs from degrees he has referred to Dr. Kidwai's note to the Committee of Mr. Parthasarathy and also to the Janata Party's acceptance of this approach in 1979.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The present Prime Minister also expressed the same view.

SHRI K. C. PANT: The Prime Minister is also of the same view and I am also of the same view. We are going to work on that. It is not something which can be done overnight. There is, first of all, a certain amount of confusion in this matter. It is not as if degrees will be done away, Degrees will continue. The only question is where degrees are not needed, one should not compel people to go in for higher degrees for degrees' sake. This broad approach is getting accepted more and more. But we will have to involve the UPSC, the State Government and the other employers in public and private sector. All of them will have to agree with this concept and then alone can we really start pushing things. I do not mind telling Prof. Dandavate that even within the Government also, one will have to persuade those sections of the Government which deal with personnel matters and administrative reforms and so on. So, it will take a little time. I am not trying to put off answering the question, I think I have to be realistic in this matter.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us see what Mamataji has to say, in this regard. Is it in regard to West Bengal ?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Will the hon. Minister of Education be pleased to state how could there be a uniform educational curriculum under the present state of affairs, when a State like West Bengal teaches Marxism even at the school level, neglecting the study of our national movement ?

SHRI K.C. PANT : I would like to inform my hon. friend about one recent welcome development. The Central Organisation of the Board of Secondary Education had a meeting in February this year, which recommended that all the boards should have a common and uniform curriculum in the whole country in all schools.

And their recommendations they are following up with the plan of action as well as with a time target. This is a unanimous decision of that central organisation. Now,

this is a very welcome development; and not only I welcome it but I expect them to work this out in collaboration with the States; and one of the specific points they have made is that all the boards must look upon this as a collaborative effort, that they must all help in the evolution of the desirable curriculum so that they are seeking cooperation of all the States and all the States are a party to this decision. I think this is something to be taken note of.

[Translation]

**Rail line from Behariganj to Simri
Bakhtiar**

*489. **SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey was carried out in 1974-75 to lay a rail line from Behariganj to Simri Bakhtiar (district Madhepura, Bihar);

(b) if so the details thereof including the results of the survey; and

(c) if not, the action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per the Survey Report the new Metre Gauge line would cost over Rs. 5.5 crores at 1974-75 price level, yielding a return of less than 1%.

(c) In view of the severe constraint of resources and heavy commitments already in hand, this proposal will have to await consideration till the resources position improves.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV : When I was drafting this question, a gentleman sitting by my side was saying that Bansi Lalji...

MR. SPEAKER : Has he left the House apprehending your question ?

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV : He was of the view that Bansi Lalji considered Bihar as untouchable. I would like